

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MEXICO 03714 242227 Z

72

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 DOTE-00 COME-00 AGR-20 TRSE-00

NSC-10 NSCE-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

INRE-00 SSO-00 RSR-01 /068 W
----- 029037

O 242154 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6161

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 3714

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRN, MX

SUBJECT: RETURN OF US RAIL CARS

REF: STATE 98858

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY TCO MET LAST NIGHT WITH FNM DIRECTOR GOMEZ AND THREE OF HIS KEY ASSISTANTS TO DISCUSS ICC EMBARGO AFFECTING LAREDO GATEWAY. GOMEZ REQUESTED THAT ICC AMEND ORDER TO EXEMPT WHEAT, CORN, BARLEY, SOY BEAN MEAL, VEGETABLE OILS AND TALLOW, IN THAT ORDER OF PRIORITY. HE ALSO REQUESTED THAT DEPT OF STATE ARRANGE APPROPRIATE MEETING IN WASHINGTON ON MAY 29, WHICH HE AND POSSIBLY MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF WOULD ATTEND. HE WOULD LIKE MEETING TO INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF ICC, AAR AND STATE.

2. GOMEZ WAS VERY DISAPPOINTED TO LEARN OF ICC DECISION IMPOSE EMBARGO, CITING FIGURES SHOWING TOTAL NET RETURN OF 982 CARS MAY 4- MAY 22. HE HAD ASSUMED THAT THESE RESULTS WOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO SATISFY ICC CONCERNS. AFTER STUDYING STATISTICAL TABLE CONTAINED PARA 3 REFTEL AND LISTENING CAREFULLY TO POINTS OUTLINED PARA 6 A- G, HIS ATTITUDE SOFTENED. OPERATIONS MANAGER PRODUCED FIGURES FOR MAY 21 WHICH CONFORMED CLOSELY TO OURS, I. E., APPROXI-
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MEXICO 03714 242227 Z

MATELY 3,900 TOTAL. HE CLAIMED, HOWEVER, THAT BY THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 23 THIS TOTAL HAD BEEN REDUCED TO 3,443.

3. ASKED FOR MORE EXACT DETAILS ON LOCOMOTIVE SITUATION, TRAFFIC MANAGER STATED THAT THREE HAVE BEEN ACQUIRED FROM SOUTHERN PACIFIC, ONE OF WHICH WENT INTO OPERATION MAY 19 AND THE OTHER TWO MAY 21; EIGHT FROM MISSOURI PACIFIC, FOUR OF WHICH ALREADY IN OPERATION AND THE OTHER FOUR ENTERING SERVICE THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 23; TWO FROM TEX- MEX ALREADY OPERATING. IN ADDITION, HE SAID THAT THREE LOCOMOTIVES HAVE BEEN ACQUIRED FROM SANTA FE AND WILL CROSS THE BORDER AT EL PASO ON MAY 24. HE ALSO REPORTED THAT ON MAY 22 FNM RECEIVED 204 RAIL CARS FROM US AND RETURNED 218.

4. IN THE COURSE OF GENERAL DISCUSSION, GOMEZ EXPRESSED PARTICULAR CONCERN THAT EMBARGO COULD WORSEN ALREADY CRITICAL FOOD SHORTAGE AND CREATE A POLITICAL PROBLEM FOR THE GOVERNMENT. HE EXPRESSED RELIEF THAT THE ICC WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE FOR EXEMPTIONS SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO. AFTER CONSULTING BY TELEPHONE WITH DIRECTOR DE LA VEGA OF CONASUPO, HE DICTATED TO HIS SECRETARY A LIST OF ITEMS WHICH HE THEN HANDED TO EMBASSY TCO, SAYING THAT THE LIST REPRESENTED AN OFFICIAL REQUEST BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO FOR EXEMPTIONS IN ORDER OF PRIORITY. THE LIST FOLLOWS:

(1) WHEAT, (2) CORN, (3) BARLEY, (4) SOY BEAN MEAL, (5) VEGETABLE OILS, AND (6) TALLOW.

5. GOMEZ ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFER TO ARRANGE A MEETING IN WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION IN DETAIL. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD BE WILLING TO TRAVEL MONDAY, MAY 28, ALONG WITH ONE OR TWO OF HIS STAFF MEMBERS FOR A ONE- DAY MEETING IN WASHINGTON ON MAY 29. HE HOPED THAT THE MEETING COULD INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ICC, AAR, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND ANY OTHERS CONCERNED. HE EMPHASIZED THAT HE MUST HAVE CONFIRMATION OF THIS MEETING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO MAKE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS. GOMEZ SAID THAT HE HOPED WHILE IN WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS NOT ONLY THE IMMEDIATE CRISIS AT LAREDO BUT LAY BEFORE THE MEETING HIS LONG- RANGE PLANS FOR STRENGTHENING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MEXICO 03714 242227 Z

THE MEXICAN RAILWAY SYSTEM.

ACTION REQUESTED: THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION ASAP OF MAY 29 MEETING AS WELL AS REACTION BY ICC TO GOM REQUEST FOR EXEMPTIONS.

MCBRIDE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MEXICO03714
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730553/aaaajsvj.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 98858
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Jan-2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980304
Subject: RETURN OF US RAIL CARS
TAGS: ETRN, MX, ETRN
To: EB
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005